

7 Concept

Improved methods and arrangements are provided that employ a novel software version control technique that can be used to expedite for updating of software and other data in managed devices. By way of example, a software version control method is provided which includes assigning data files to groups, compressing each group to form corresponding compressed images, associating each compressed image with a unique identifier, generating a listing of unique identifiers, and storing the compressed images and the listing of unique identifiers within a client device. The method further includes, during an upgrade process, comparing the listing of unique identifiers with a downloaded latest listing of unique identifiers from a source device, and selectively downloading compressed images whose unique identifiers appears in the latest listing of unique identifiers from the source device but not in the listing of unique identifiers in client device.